

JRS  
7/21

WITNESS TO THE WORLD

*by Louise Gluck*

Happens in my mind the act of universe;  
and this is this because I say it so,  
and sand is sand because this is my word.  
And is a child whom I could take away and say  
"There is not such a thing as bird." Nor would he ever know.  
Nor would it happen in his mind: bird,  
the thing that seems above the seeming sea.  
Then it is I the one who made the earth,  
who could invent the birth  
of Spring, and conjure day and night,  
and dream the ocean and the bird. And thus it waves in me,  
the ocean, thus I share  
the first encounter of a bird with air; and as its flight  
exists in me am I  
the whole world: waves,  
and over waves, birds singing into out of sight,  
and past the birds,  
light.



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